

Preliminary Amendment dated October 30, 2003
Application filed October 30, 2003
Applicant: U. HOFMANN

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 6 with the following amended paragraph:

To assure the function and motion of the knitting tool in the longitudinal and transverse directions in a the same needle guide track, the width of the transfer hook shank region, extending away from the hook, and the width of the loop-drawing needle shank region, adjoining the cheek region in the direction away from the hook, are essentially the same. As a result, it is possible to use one a needle guide track of constant width over the entire guide height.

Please replace the first paragraph on page 8 with the following amended paragraph:

In Fig. 1, a knitting tool 1 is shown, to which a loop- drawing needle 2 and a transfer needle 3 belong. Both needles are disposed in the needle track of a needle bed. The loop-drawing needle 2 has a shank 5, extending in elongated form along the longitudinal direction 4 of the loop-drawing needle, and this shank is provided on one end or some other suitable point, with an operating means, for instance in the form of a butt, that is not otherwise shown but extends away from the shank 5. The butt is in engagement with a cam that serves to drive the loop-drawing needle 2 back and forth in its longitudinal direction 4.

Please replace the first paragraph on page 15 with the following amended paragraph

The spring means 41 referred to is inserted for instance into a cam part of a cam for driving both the transfer needle 3 and the loop-drawing needle 2. It is disposed such that a pressure piece 42, provided on it, comes into engagement with the back of the transfer needle 3 essentially only whenever the control faces 36, 37 engage one another, and the transfer needle 3 is meant to approach the loop-drawing needle 2. The spring means 41 includes a

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receptacle 43, which is supported in the ~~loop-drawing needle 2 cam part~~. The receptacle 43 encloses an interior in which a slider 44 is supported in such a way that it can be displaced counter to the force of a compression spring 45. The compression spring preferably works without prestressing. Its position can be set by an adjusting screw 46 on which it is braced. By its other end, it is braced on the slider 44. The slider has a slide element 47 on its end, the sliding properties of which are optimized for the sake of cooperation with the transfer needle 3.